We claim:

1.-8. (canceled)

9. (new) A method for querying a mail server located in a packet-switched network via a public switched telephone network terminal device, comprising:

inputting a service access information at the public switched telephone network terminal device;

transmitting a signal to an internode module, the transmission triggered by the input of the service access information;

generating an email waiting indication request at the internode module;

adapting the email waiting indication request for transmission over the packet-switched network on a remote access server;

transmitting the email waiting indication request to an application server; and

submitting a query to the mail server via the application server.

10. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the internode module is located on a standalone platform in a public switched telephone network.

11. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the internode module is co-located with a transit exchange module on a switching platform.

12. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the internode module forms part of a transit exchange.

13. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the service access information is transmitted to the internode module via a central office, a private branch exchange, or a transit exchange.

14. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the service access information is transmitted to the internode module via a DSS1 protocol.

15. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the service access information is transmitted to the internode module via a frequency shift keying.

16. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the email waiting indication request is transmitted to the remote access server via a DSS1 protocol.

17. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the mail server uses a protocol selected from the group consisting of post office protocol, internet message access protocol, and simple mail transfer protocol.

18. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein a response from the query is adapted to a voice message and transmitted to a service subscriber.

19. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein a response from the query is adapted to a short message service message and transmitted to a service subscriber.

20. (new) An internode module, comprising:

a service address code comprising identification information of an email waiting indication subscriber;

an authenticator for authenticating the email waiting indication subscriber; and

an email waiting indication request generated by a second module and having the authentication information,

wherein the internode module is located at a platform selected from the group consisting of transit exchange, open service platform, and standalone platform.

21. (new) The internode module to claim 20, wherein the email waiting indication request further comprises an application type parameter, an identifier for a terminal device, and an address of the email waiting indication server.

22. (new) The internode module to claim 20, wherein the internode module comprises the second module.